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N<sup>o</sup>. 339

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An Enquiry into the Necessity of keeping up the present Number of standing Forces in this Kingdom.



HAVING given my Reasons why a standing Army, even with the Consent of Parliament, is dangerous to the Constitution of a free Government, I am next to enquire whether the Continuance of the same Number of Forces is necessary to the common Safety, at this Juncture.

The Advocates for military Power endeavour to sooth us into an Opinion that the Liberties of so powerful a Kingdom as Great Britain can never be over-run by an Army of eighteen thousand Men. This They are pleased to call a *Handful of Men*; tho' it is a more numerous Body than was ever kept up here, in Times of Peace, till of very late Years; unless those Gentlemen should think fit to instance the Reign of King James the second, who claim'd a dispensing Power, at the same Time, and made an open Attack upon all our Laws and Liberties. Nay, it is a much larger Number than was thought sufficient for our Security at home, even during the two last Wars, whilst a Pretender to the Crown was publicly entertained at the Court of France, and Louis the 14th lay under the strongest Temptations, both of Principle and Interest, to disturb us at home, in order to divert us from pushing the War with Vigour abroad.

Besides, these Gentlemen often forget Themselves, and contradict one another in the Course of this Debate; for though, in some Places, They endeavour to ridicule our Apprehensions of Danger from so small an Army; yet, in others, They plead for the present Number of Forces, because if We keep up any Army at all, it ought to be sufficient to defeat any Attempts, either by foreign Invasion, or domestic Insurrection: That is, sufficient to awe and subdue the People of England, as well as any foreign Power, that may invade us; for as Mr. \* Treachery very justly observes, *that Army which can do no Hurt, can do no Good.* — It is impossible to consider of a standing Force, which shall be sufficient to oppose a foreign Power, without considering it, at the same Time, sufficient to suppress the Subject at home; for They must beat Those, who, you suppose can beat us; and I must confess I am unwilling to depend on their good Will.

There are many Instances of Nations, which have been subdued by a much smaller Number of mercenary Troops, than Those at present in Dispute; and, perhaps, I might add that no People in the World are more liable to these Dangers than We, in England, where there are so few strong Places, and Those in the King's Hands, as well as the Militia and the civil Magistracy; besides the vast Influence, which the Disposition of Employments, Offices and Honours, ecclesiastical, civil and military, gives Him over many of the Nobility, Gentry and others, in every County. What therefore could a rude, unarm'd, undisciplin'd Multitude do against such a firm, united, and well-compacted Force, even supposing there were no standing Army to oppose Them? But when it is back'd with a Body of eighteen thousand regular Troops, nothing but a Miracle could make any popular Insurrection successful, whatever Provocations there might be for it; especially, if We consider the farther Restraint of the Riot-Act, which is sufficient of it self to crush any such Attempt in its Infancy; and thus the People, in a bad Reign, would be oblig'd to submit to any Burthens, which their Governors might think fit to lay upon Them.

I mention This, only to shew the Dangers of such a Power, in general, without designing to insinuate that We have any Reason to fear the bad Effects of it, at present; but it certainly behoves a wise People to take some Care for Posterity; and as We have often been reduced to the unhappy Necessity of asserting our Liberties, Sword in Hand, so We ought not to divert ourselves, or our Children, of the same Means, if They should ever become necessary, in Times to come; for no People can be justly call'd free, as I observ'd before, when They have no dernier Resort from Oppression, and it is in the Power of the Prince to make Himself absolute, whenever He pleases.

But We can entertain no Apprehensions of this Nature from his present Majesty, who desires to reign in the Hearts of his Subjects, and hath been graciously pleas'd to promise us from the Throne, that He would reduce his Forces as soon as it could be done without Prejudice to the common Cause, and consistent with the Interest of his Kingdom.

We were in Hopes, indeed, that the late Treaty of Vienna would have put such a desirable Opportunity in his Hands, and therefore a Reduction of the Army was propos'd and vigorously supported by a great Number of Gentlemen, in the last Session of Parliament; but a certain honourable Gentleman insisting very strongly on the Necessity of keeping Them up, for one Year longer, in order to see whether the several Powers of Europe would acquiesce in the Dispositions made by our late Treaties, the Majority thought fit to concur with Him; and since none of those Powers have endeavour'd to embroil the present State of Affairs, We have the utmost Reason to expect, nay to depend on a Reduction this Year, when the Expediency of some Ease to our Trade and Manufactures is so generally acknowledg'd on all Sides, however We may differ about the Means.

I am unwilling to specify any particular Number of Men, to which our Army ought to be reduced in the present Juncture; because I think no military, standing Force at all ought to be made a Part of our Constitution, nor even kept up from Year to Year, more than is sufficient to Man our Garrisons at home and abroad; but whatever Reduction our Superiors may be pleas'd to make, I hope it will consist in the breaking of intire Corps, or Regiments; as That is the only Reduction, which can give us any Relief from the Danger, or any considerable Ease from the Expence of a standing Army; for it ought to be particularly observ'd that above half our Expence, on this Account, is occasion'd by the great Number of Commission and Non-Commission Officers, who compose our present Army; and in This too consists our chief Danger; for as the Reduction of a few private Men in each Company would produce no considerable saving to the Publick, so neither would it ease us from any reasonable Fears on that Account. Whilst the same Corps are preserv'd, which are properly the Stamina of an Army, it will be a very easy Matter, at any Time, to fill Them up, by only beating a Drum about Town; and therefore I should look upon the present Army to be almost as dangerous to our Constitution, though the Companies of each Regiment were reduced to twenty Men each. It is likewise proper to observe, in this Place, that though our Army does not amount to quite 18000 Men, yet, considering the low Establishment of the Regiments, They may be very easily increased to a very formidable Number, without any considerable Charge to the Crown.

But since our Representatives thought fit last Year, to contend only for a Reduction of the Army to twelve thousand Men, as a *Minus Malum*, let us admit that Number to be necessary, at present, and see what hath been objected to such a Reduction.

Mr. Walsingham tells us, that four thousand Men are absolutely necessary for the Security of Scotland, and that two thousand more, commonly call'd Invalids, are made Use of to garrison the fortified Towns of England; so that if the Number should be reduced to twelve thousand Men, there would be no more than six thousand, who could be made Use of, on any sudden Occasion, to repel Attempts from abroad, or to quell Insurrections at home. He adds that Part of these six thousand Men, and a very great Part too, must be encamp'd about London, for the Preservation of common Quiet in the CAPITAL of the Kingdom. As the latter Part of this Argument is taken almost verbatim from the Mouth of his honourable Patron, I shall pay more Regard to it than it would otherwise deserve.

I will admit, for Argument Sake, that four thousand Men are necessary for the Security of SCOTLAND; That is, not so much to prevent any Invasion from abroad, as to keep Them in a proper Subjection to England; for They are certainly a People of a very stubborn Spirit, and do not pay their Taxes with the same Alacrity with their Neighbours a little more southward. As an Englishman therefore I can have no Objection against bridling of Scotland; though I might, perhaps, be of a different Opinion, if I had been born on the other Side of the Tweed. But I must beg Leave to with, on the same Principle, as an Englishman, that We had some Security that the Forces, which may be necessary for that Employment in Scotland, shall never be made Use of for the same Purpose here; and I think it would not be unreasonable to make it equally penal, by Law, for those Forces to pass the Tweed, as it was for the Roman Army, employ'd abroad, to pass the Rubicon.

I will likewise admit two thousand Invalids to be necessary for garrisoning our fortify'd Towns, without any farther Enquiry, and proceed to the Question whether six thousand Men are not sufficient for all other just and reasonable Purposes of the State, in Times of Peace.

We are told by the Free-Briton and his Patron (for it is impossible to disunite Them) that a very great Part of this Number is necessary to guard the CAPITAL. I am ready to allow that, in Times of Danger,

when We have Reason to apprehend an Invasion from abroad, or a Rebellion at home, it is necessary to prevent any Insurrections in the Capital of the Kingdom; but I cannot possibly conceive what Occasion there can be for a Body of four, or five thousand regular Forces to secure the Quiet of London, in Times of Peace and Tranquillity, like the present. The civil Magistrate, with the Assistance of the Militia, under proper Regulations, would certainly be sufficient to quell any little Tumults, which may happen to arise there.—But of This I shall speak more fully in another Paper.

The Kings of England have been so long attended with a Body-Guard of regular Forces, that it would be thought Want of Respect to deny his present Majesty the same military Equipage, which his Predecessors have enjoy'd since the Restoration; but surely a much less Number than Those, now quarter'd about London and call'd Guards, would be sufficient for this Purpose; and nobody, I believe, will insist on the Necessity of Them for preserving the Peace at Opera's and Play-houses.

I mention This, without any Intention of pointing out the present Regiments of Guards as the most proper Corps to be Broken, or reduc'd; but only to shew that some of Them may be safely drawn out, upon Occasion, to serve other Purposes, besides guarding the Person of his Majesty, and securing the Quiet of the Capital.

Let us now take a View of the more general Arguments against a Reduction.

First, it is said, by a most ingenious and florid Orator, that We never did get reduce our Army, but that Reduction was the Occasion of some Plot, or Machination against us. To support this Objection He instances the Rebellion in Scotland, the Spanish Invasion, and the Bishop of Rochester's Conspiracy, in the last Reign, as the Consequences of reducing our Army, at several Times. To These He might add the South Sea Scheme, the Penny-Post-Letter Plot, and Belloni's Conspiracy, which are all as much to the Purpose. The only Answer I shall make to this Objection is, that it will hold equally strong against a Reduction, at any Time, and is plainly calculated with a Design to prepare us for a perpetual standing Army.

Of the same Nature is the Argument of another very honourable Gentleman, concerning the Danger of having the Pretender stol'n in upon us. This naturally puts us in Mind of Mr. Bays's Army, in the Rehearsal, which lay Incoc. at Knightsbridge. But, to be as serious as possible on such an Occasion, will not this Argument always hold, as long as there is a Pretender to the Crown; and since the Person, who now claims it, hath several Children already born, when can We hope to be relieved from the Burthen of a standing Army, according to this Method of Reasoning?

The same Gentleman is pleas'd to observe that the Influence and Credit, which every State in Europe hath, or can expect, in the publick Negotiations thereof, depends intirely upon the Number of regular Troops They can command upon any Emergency.

Now to This I reply, that if our Reputation abroad depends intirely upon the Number of our standing Army at home, as He asserts, We ought to keep up three or four Times the Number; but I must beg Leave to apprehend that our Influence abroad depends on quite different Points, as I shall hereafter endeavour to demonstrate.

This leads me to another Argument, in Behalf of standing Armies, which hath been advanc'd by some of his Advocates; I mean that We ought to keep up at least fifty, or sixty thousand Men, if our Country was not an Island; and, perhaps, I might have nothing to urge against it, if That was really our Case; but since God hath been pleas'd to encompass us with a natural Defence of Seas and Rocks, I cannot possibly conceive what Purpose such a Supposition can serve in the present Argument.

As to the Disaffection of the People, which hath likewise been urg'd, on this Occasion, I think it sufficient to answer that nothing serves the Cause of Jacobitism so much as keeping up a numerous standing Army, in Times of Peace. To This I will add an old Observation, and a very just one, though it may seem a little paradoxical; viz. that the most likely Way to bring in the Pretender, is burthensome the People with a large standing Army to keep Him out.

It hath been farther urg'd, by the Advocates of a standing Army, that a Reduction of whole Regiments would be attended with great Hardships on many of those brave Officers, who have served their Country faithfully in the late Wars, and are disabled, by their Profession, from getting a Livelihood in any other Way. I heartily wish there was no Weight in this Objection; which I really think to be an Objection against a standing Army in general, as it breeds up so many Gentlemen to that Way of

\* See his Answer to the Ballancing Letter, State Tracts of King William, vol. 2. p. 593.



life, and will always be a powerful Motive against a Reduction. But as nobody can have a more affectionate Concern for *those Gentlemen* than my self, so I believe I may venture to promise for the Nation, in general, that if They were sure of being relieved from the Burthen and Dangers of a *standing Army*, in Times to come, They would not grumble at any Provision, which the Parliament might think fit to make for the *reduced Officers*.

It is natural to make one Reflection on the Tenor of all these Arguments; by which the *honourable Gentleman* and his *Advocates* seem resolv'd to fulfil the Prediction of a *Jacobite Writer*, at the Beginning of his late Majesty's Reign, who endeavour'd to terrify the Freeholders of Great Britain with Apprehensions that, if the *Whigs* prevail'd, They must expect to be govern'd by a *standing Army*.

There are two Arguments more, against any Reduction at present, which I shall only just mention, with a short Remark upon each.

One was started by a very witty Gentleman, who hath lately distinguish'd Himself by his *Speeches at home*. This worthy Orator was pleas'd to observe that the many *scandalous and seditious Libels*, which had been lately spread about the Kingdom, were a sufficient Proof that the Spirit of *Jacobitism* was not yet extinguish'd, and therefore We ought not to reduce any of our Forces. But to this it was reply'd, in a proper Place, that, even supposing the Fact to be true, (and it would be meer Farce to dispute it with such a Gentleman) a *standing Army* of *scribblers* seem'd to be a more natural Expedient than a *standing Army* of *Soldiers*; and, God knows, the present Administration, or any Administration, will never want such a Support!

The other Argument, hinted at above, was advanc'd by a Gentleman, equally remarkable for his *Negotiations abroad*; who pleas'd against the Reduction of the Army, because the *Common Council of London* thought fit to reject a Proposal for setting up King William's Statue in *Cheapside*, where They had lately got a *Conduit* pull'd down, with some Difficulty, which had proved a great Nuisance to Them. From hence one would naturally conclude that *eighteen thousand Men* ought to be maintain'd for setting up *Statues*, in Defence of the Citizens; and it may, perhaps, seem surprizing to some People that they have not yet been employ'd in that Service.

I am sorry that I cannot treat such Arguments as These, for the Continuance of a large *standing Army*, without Ridicule; which I know is very disagreeable to the *Gentlemen on the other Side*. But it is, indeed, impossible to avoid it; and I should be really ashamed to mention Them at all, if They did not proceed from *Persons*, to whom We are oblig'd to pay more than ordinary Defence. They must therefore give me Leave to apply the Words of a late *ministerial Writer*, in Favour of *Excises*, to the present Purpose. — *This the Free-Briton hath reveal'd in Print, and his Patrons have not blush'd to do it in Places, where such Fallacies were not altogether so becomingly introduced.*

For my Part, I think They had much better speak out at once, and confess, without any Hesitation, that the present Number of *military Forces* is necessary to support a certain Scheme in Agitation, which They find to be very disagreeable to the general Inclinations of the People.

I shall therefore conclude my present Argument with observing that a perpetual *standing Army* of *eighteen thousand Men* was even lately thought to be unjustifiable a Subject, that the *ministerial Writers* used to contend for it only, during the *unsettled State of Affairs*, and promised us that We should be relieved from some Part of it, as soon as They were adjust'd; but the Arguments, made Use of last Year, give us the most dreadful Apprehensions, as They are founded on the Necessity of keeping up the same Number of Forces at all Times. However, since the *honourable Gentleman* in the Administration was pleas'd to insist upon it, for one Year only, till We saw whether the Powers of Europe would acquiesce in our late *Treaties*, and nothing to the contrary having appear'd, We hope that He will have the Goodness to desire it no longer; for if the same Number of Forces should be now continued, We can have no Reason to expect a Reduction at any Time; and thus a *standing Army* of near *eighteen thousand Men* will, indeed, become a Part of our Constitution; or rather our *antient, civil Constitution* will be in Danger of being converted, by Degrees, into a *military Government*.

The *honourable Gentleman* was of the same Opinion Himself, and reason'd most vigorously for it, in the Year 1718. I could wish that his Speech, at that Time, were extant, as well as That in the Year 1732, that We might have the Pleasure of comparing Them together, and from thence forming a Judgment whether the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, or the MINISTER, spoke most like an honest Englishman and a Man of Sense.

But whatever his former, or his present Opinion may be upon this Head, We rely on his Majesty's most gracious Promise, and the Wisdom of our Representatives for such Relief, as They shall think most proper and expedient, in our present Circumstances.

To be continued.

Since the Publication of our Paper of the 14th of October, several Accounts of the grievous Oppressions, which some of our Colonies groan under, are come to Hand. — Our Correspondents may rest assur'd, that tho' their Letters have not been yet published, a proper Use shall very speedily be made of them.

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Hague, Dec. 5. N. S. The States of Holland separated yesterday, after having given their Consent to a Reduction of the Army. This Reform is to consist in a Suppression of the last *Extraordinary Petition*; that is to say, in cashiering the Augmentation then made, amounting to 8 or 10,000 Men. The great Pensionary *Slingelandt*, who knows the Exigences of State, no Body better, and steadily pursues its true Interest, was a great Stickler against this Reduction in the present Juncture, when certain thick Clouds seem to be gathering, and may possibly disturb the present Calm of Europe: But there were powerful Members of the Regency, whose Instructions were positive. However, that able Minister prevailed so far, that this Reform is not to take Place till the Month of May next, and the Pay is to be continued upon the present Foot till then.

Their High-Mightinesses at the same time consented to the Equipment of a Squadron of 10 or 12 Men of War, designed for the North, as some will have it; but this is more than the most confident of them can tell. However, the Republick will thereby be enabled to fulfil her Engagements, if any Broil should happen; neither can she be said to disarm, while she supplies by Sea what she takes off by Land.

Calais, Jan. 5. N. S. A Criminal was executed in our Market-Place last Week, and when taken from the Gallows for dead, his Friends carried him to the next Church to have some Masses for his departed Soul; when to the Amazement of the Congregation, the supposed dead Man got up upon his Legs, and spoke; whereupon they took him immediately away, and put him to Bed; but after eating and drinking, and being judg'd perfectly recover'd, he expired.

We hear from Newport, that the Emperor has determined to make Newport a Free Port.

## HOME NEWS.

Dublin, Dec. 19. Yesterday Capt. Moony and Wm. Maguire were try'd and found guilty of High Treason, for instilling Men for foreign Service, and received Sentence to be hang'd, drawn and quarter'd.

## LONDON, December 30.

At a Meeting yesterday (ennight) of a great Number of Merchants, Traders and Citizens, at the Swan Tavern in Cornhill, it was unanimously resolv'd, "That the Merchants, Traders, and Citizens here present, will act with the utmost Unanimity, and by all dutiful and lawful Methods strenuously oppose any new Excise, or any Extension of the Excise Laws, under whatever Name or Pretence it may be attempted." And they deputed Sir William Chapman, Mr. Alderman Champion, Mr. Alderman Godschal, Sir John Grosvenor, Mr. Willmot, Mr. Bosworth, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Chittys, Mr. Pearle, Mr. Haswell, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Lockwood, Mr. Weyland, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hyem, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. Dath, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Newnam, Mr. Sandford, Mr. Foy, and Mr. Duncalf, to wait on the Four Representatives of this City with the said Resolution, and in the most earnest Manner request them, in the Name of the Merchants, Traders, and Citizens, there met, to oppose with the utmost Vigour and Resolution, any Motion of that Kind in the House of Commons. — *This is a laudable Precedent for reviving the antient Practice of the People in giving their Representatives Instructions upon all great Occasions, and We hope will be followed by every County and Borough in England.*

On Saturday Morning between Five and Six died, at his House in St. James's Square, his Grace THOMAS Duke of NORFOLK, Hereditary Earl Marshal of England, Earl of Arundel, Surrey, Norfolk, and Norwich, Baron Howard of Mowbray, Seagrave, Brose, of Gower, Fitz-Alan, Warren Cluon, Oswaltira, Maltravers, Greylock, Furnival, Verdon, Lovetot, Strange of Blackmere, and Howard of Castle rising; Premier Duke, Earl and Baron of England, next the Blood Royal, and chief of the illustrious Family of the Howards. His Grace married Mary, Daughter and sole Heir to Sir Nicholas Shirburne of Stonyhurst in the County of Lancaster, Bart. but had no Issue by her; wherefore the Honours and Estate devolve upon his Brother, Philip Howard, now Duke of Norfolk. His Corpse is to be interr'd at Arundel in Suffex. His Grace was 49 Years of Age on the 9th of this Instant.

The Earl of Burlington has prepared a Plan for building a stately House in Pall-Mall, upon the late Lord Carleton's Ground, for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

On Saturday last the Commissioners for managing the Corporation for the Relief of the poor Sea Officers Widows, met at the Admiralty-Office; when several poor Widows petition'd and laid in their Claims to the Benefit of the said Charity, and the same were receiv'd and read; and some were admitted to have the Benefit of the same, when the first Payment is to be made.

Saturday Morning a General Court was held at the India House, when Sir Matthew Decker being in the Chair declar'd the Numbers on the Ballot for the Dividend on their Stock, whether it should be Three or Three and a Half per Cent. on their Capital for the last half Year, on the casting up of which it was found to be carried by a great Majority for Three and a Half, and accordingly declar'd.

Letters from Gibraltar dated the 5th Instant, mention the following Advice from Mequinez, by way of Tetuan, viz. That an English Ship, with a considerable Number

of Christians on board, having been brought into Sallee, by one of their Cruizers, the British Consul set out for Mequinez, to solicit her Release of the King, taking with him a Jewish Rabbi, named Salome Namias, skill'd in the Language, and a Friend to the English, who went from this City about four Years ago to reside for some Time at Sallee as a Factor to some Jew Merchants, leaving his Wife and Children here: On his Arrival at Court with the Consul, they were admitted to an Audience, and the Rabbi labouring hard to induce the Emperor to restore the Prize, Admiral Perez, late Ambassador to the States of Holland, publicly accus'd him of sending early Intelligence of their fitting out Privateers, and with what Designs, to Gibraltar, from whence it was soon spread among the Christians; and averring that the Cause of their Cruizers being so unsuccessful, was chiefly owing to Salome Namias; and this Charge being supported by others concerned in the Cruizers, the King declar'd he should be burnt alive. On this the Jews, who are pretty numerous in those Parts, offer'd 40,000 Ducats to save his Life, he being a Person greatly esteem'd by them; but the King would not hearken to them, yet twice offer'd him his Life, on Condition he would abjure his Religion; but the Rabbi, despising Life on those Terms, was accordingly burnt; and although the Jews offer'd 4000 Ducats for his Bones, that Request was deny'd them, and the Fire was kept three Days, in order to consume them. The King order'd Soldiers to go to Sallee and seize upon his House and Effects for his Use, by which many of the Rabbi's Employers will be great Sufferers. His Wife ran mad on Receipt of this News.

Letters from Bristol say, that a few Days ago Informations were made on Oath, at the Council-House, by several Mariners from on board a Ship lately arrived from Africa and the West Indies, against the Captain of the said Ship, for killing Richard Peard, one of the stoutest Sailors belonging to the said Ship, on the High Seas, in their Passage from the Coast of Africa to Jamaica, by beating him violently on the Head with a thick Rope that had a Knot at the End of it, which bruised him in such a Manner that he died in a short time after. It is remarkable, that whilst the Surgeon was using his Endeavours to save his Life, by bleeding him, &c. the Captain was so inhuman as to throw Buckets of cold Water upon him. He was committed to Goal, and is to be mov'd up to London in a few Days.

Wednesday a Commission pass'd the Great Seal, constituting — Tyrone, Esq; (Brother of the Lord Tyrone, of the Kingdom of Ireland) to be one of the Commissioners of the Customs, in the Room of Mr. Walker, deceased.

On Monday several large Chests and Boxes of Money were brought in a Waggon under a strong Guard to the Pay-Office at the Horse Guards, from the Seat of the late Col. Norton near Portsmouth, being the Personal Estate so bequeathed and deposited in the said Office.

Rob. On Sunday Night last Mr. Rider, a noted Apothecary in Ayre-street, Piccadilly, passing from the Sun Tavern in the Strand about Eleven at Night, was knock'd down by two Street Robbers, in Duke's Court opposite to St. Martin's Church, who robb'd him of a Watch and some Silver, and beat him in a most barbarous Manner. — On Saturday last Mr. Jones, a Mailster, of Ware, returning home from London, was attack'd by a single Highwayman near Cheshunt, who robb'd him of a Silver Watch and about 15 Guineas, and then rode off. — The same Day in the Afternoon a Highwayman well mounted on a Sorrel Horse, robb'd two Gentlemen upon Mitcham Common, of their Watches and about 25 l. — On Saturday Evening a Coach going to Hackney was attack'd by a single Highwayman on Cambridge Heath, who took from the Passengers two Silver Watches and about 50 s. in Money. He was mounted on a Bay Gelding, and has lately committed several Robberies on that Road.

Dead. A few Days since died at her House in St. Catherine's, Mrs. Mary Stukeley, a Widow Gentlewoman; by whose Death an Estate of several hundred Pounds per Ann. goes to Sir John Hynd Cotton, Bart. Knight of the Shire for Cambridge. — Dr. Brown, an eminent Physician, at his Lodgings in Fleetstreet. — Joseph Thurston, of the Inner Temple, Esq; — The Rev. Mr. Smith, Master of the Free School at Tiverton. — Miss Wills, a Lady of about 15 Years of Age, Niece to Sir Charles Wills, Knight of the Bath. — On Monday died the Rev. and Learned Mr. Charles Bertheau, a Native of Montrelier in France, who was Minister for a short Time of the Protestant Church there, and afterwards of one at Charenton, and after that of one at Paris, but was oblig'd after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantz, to come to England in 1685, about which Time, on Account of his great Parts and Learning, he was chosen Minister of the French Church in Threadneedle street. He died in the 76th Year of his Age, and besides several thousand Pounds which he left to his Nephew, and other Legacies, he bequeathed 400 l. to the Poor of the said Church in Threadneedle street.

On Friday the 15th Instant dy'd that very ingenious, well-manner'd, best-natured School-Master; That truly learned, judicious, orthodox Divine, that most charitable, humble, exemplary Christian, that most affectionate of Fathers and best of Friends, That Man without Guile, the Rev. Mr. Samuel Smith, School-Master of Tiverton in Devon.

Thursday South Sea Stock was 105. South Sea Annuity 109 3 qrs. Bank 150. India 156 1 qr.